

Resolution of the City of Paterson, N.J.

No. 22

Res. # 97:016

Date of Adoption .. January 21, 1997

Division

Factual Contents Certified By

TITLE:

Title

Date

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Approved As to Form and Legality on Basis
of Facts Set Forth

CORPORATION COUNSEL

Date

COUNCILPERSON JOSE "JOEY" TORRES

Introduced the Following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Black History Month was founded in 1926 by Carter S. Woodson, the Father of Black History - born of former slaves in 1875 at New Canton in Virginia, and

WHEREAS, Woodson pioneered in documenting the black man's total contributions to American History by setting the pace for research from the many books he has written - The Education of the Negro prior to 1861 - A Century of Negro Migration - The Negro in Our History - Negro Makers of History, to name a few, and

WHEREAS, in the year 1916 Dr. Woodson started the Journal of Negro History, a scholarly repository of research which is used by students throughout the world, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson initiated the observance of National History Week in 1926 and eleven years later the Association began the publication of The Negro History Bulletin, a more popular vehicle for disseminating the findings of scholars and researchers, and

WHEREAS, National Negro History Week was first celebrated in the segregated Black schools of the South and later became a month-long focus on and an acknowledgement of the contributions of Black People to world civilization and culture, and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is an annual observance in February, of the past achievements and current status of African Americans. It coincides with the birthdays of the great black leaders Frederick Douglass (February 14) and of Abraham Lincoln (February 12), and

WHEREAS, the celebration is sponsored by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH), which Woodson founded in 1915, and

WHEREAS, Black History Month recognizes the accomplishments of past leaders of the African American community such as Sojourner Truth, Carter S. Woodson, Frederick Douglass, Malcolm X, W.E.B. DuBois, Lorraine Hansberry and Booker T. Washington, as well as more recent leaders of the Black community including Singer and Stateswoman Marian Anderson, Actress Rose McClendon, Athlete Roy Campanella, Sr., Journalist Ethel Payne, Superior Court Judge Thurgood Marshall and Woman's Advocate Mannie Burroughs; and

WHEREAS, an awareness by all citizens of the City of Paterson of Black History and culture results in a new recognition of the value of African-American contributions and inspires new members of the community to continue to dedicate themselves to an ideal of Black History and Pride, and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the City of Paterson wishes to recognize and commemorate Black History Month by recognizing the contributions made to American History by the African-American community and its continuing accomplishments on the political, cultural, artistic and community levels, and